

TSNRP ★ news

From the Director

FALL/WINTER 2011



CAPT(sel) John P. Maye

Having recently assumed the role of the TriService Nursing Research Program's (TSNRP's) Executive Director, I am excited about the future. Military nurses work and live in environments that most people outside the military can never truly understand. Our unique experiences are part of our professional development.

Military officers can take advantage of these experiences while furthering their education through programs that allow them to remain on active duty. Many of the educational opportunities available to military officers often are not provided by non-military organizations.

TSNRP, the only program that funds and supports rigorous scientific research in military nursing, offers professional development and educational opportunities for military nurses, ranging from research development courses for novice military nurses to research grant camps that involve a competitive selection process. I encourage all military nurses to visit the TSNRP Web site at www.usuhs.mil/tsnrp to view upcoming events and educational offerings.

TSNRP's executive directors have always promoted efforts to develop research interest groups (RIGs), which are a fundamental part of the development of a strong

military nursing research program. Col Marla De Jong, USAF, NC, my predecessor, was especially diligent in her RIG promotional efforts. Currently, the Military Women's Health RIG is expanding in both scope and membership, the Biobehavioral RIG recently held its first meeting at the University of Michigan and laid the groundwork for membership and vision, and the En Route Care RIG also continues to develop. As the new Executive Director, I will ensure that TSNRP continues to support and develop the RIGs.

In this issue of *TSNRP News*, an article titled "Doctoral Education for Nurses: Which Degree Is Right for Me?" describes some of the issues facing nurses as they progress through their careers. Whether you choose to pursue a PhD, an EdD, or a DNP, TSNRP has an educational offering or grant award mechanism that can help you reach your goal. Another article, "The Importance of Mentoring," written by an active-duty Nurse Corps officer currently in a full-time PhD program, will give you a glimpse of the importance of establishing relationships with mentors for career development.

TSNRP provides a tremendous opportunity for military nurses. Consider participating in a RIG. In addition, take the time to review the TSNRP Web site and apply for some of the educational programs and grant award mechanisms that TSNRP offers.

CAPT John P. Maye, CRNA, PhD, NC, USN



TSNRP News is published twice each year by the TriService Nursing Research Program. It is available online at www.usuhs.mil/tsnrp/News/news.php.

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Doctoral Education for Nurses: Which Degree Is Right for Me?

CDR Robert Hawkins, NC, USN

As a program director for the Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, I am often consulted by nurses who are interested in pursuing a doctoral degree. Historically, nurses deciding on a doctoral program could choose either a doctor of philosophy (PhD) or a doctor of education (EdD) degree, and the PhD was often in a field outside of nursing.

Several conditions have drastically changed the landscape of doctoral education for nurses in recent years. Numerous PhD programs in nursing are now available. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing has recommended that all advanced practice nursing education be at the doctoral level (i.e., doctor of nursing practice, or DNP) by 2015, which has greatly enhanced the choices for doctoral study. Also, numerous PhD and DNP programs are offered, at least in part, through long-distance or online education.

This increase in options for doctoral study, while beneficial, complicates the decision-making process. Nurses can navigate this process more easily by taking three simple steps.

The first step is to answer the question, “What do I see myself doing 5 or 10 years from now?” A nurse’s long-term career goals should determine the education pursued. Each degree prepares graduates for specific and often distinct roles. The PhD educational process prepares future graduates to conduct research in their areas of expertise, the EdD process prepares graduates to conduct education-specific research, and the DNP

educational process prepares graduates to be experts in evidence-based practice.

Although these roles are distinct, there are obvious links between all degrees. For example, research by PhDs and EdDs should form the basis for the evidence used by DNPs, and gaps in evidence-based knowledge identified by DNPs should guide future research by PhDs and EdDs.

The second step in the decision-making process is to answer the question, “What can I feasibly accomplish based on my financial, family, job, and military obligations?” Potential students should consider feasibility well in advance of the decision-making process. They should talk with graduates of prospective programs to ascertain program expectations, workload, actual costs, barriers to completion, and realistic time for completion. Furthermore, potential students should discuss the implications of pursuing doctoral study with their families and employers.

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The final step is to formulate a plan for completing the degree. The plan should include how the degree will facilitate the nurse’s 5- and 10-year goals, a budget and timeline for completing the degree, actions taken or planned to minimize barriers to obtaining the degree, and actions



CDR Robert Hawkins

required to apply to the institution chosen for the degree. The act of writing a plan for degree completion should reinforce the entire decision-making process.

The decision to pursue doctoral study is an important and personal one. Using an organized process will greatly assist potential students in determining the best degree choice for doctoral study. ★

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Navy, the Department of Defense, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, or the United States Government.





The Importance of Mentoring

LCDR Kenneth Wofford, NC, USN

Pursuing a doctoral degree can be a bewildering experience. As a career officer, you are used to being assigned well-defined goals that forward your service's mission, which you accomplish by applying creativity and the resources at your disposal. Master's-level work is a relatively straightforward process: You pass your classes, complete your clinical requirements, and pass your specialty exams. However, completing a doctoral degree requires you to make a demonstrable, substantial, and unique contribution to a field of knowledge.

Doctoral studies are as varied as the students who pursue them, and every doctoral degree represents a unique journey into undiscovered territory. Therefore, effective mentorship is absolutely essential for the timely and successful completion of a doctoral program.

Most academicians are known by their fields of study and their publications, so it may seem obvious that you should identify a mentor with a publication track record in your field of interest. However, knowledge of a subject area is not the only, or even the most important, skill to seek in a mentor. The most knowledgeable person in a given field of study is of little use to you if he or she is too busy to help you finish your studies. The best mentor will help you navigate the process and manage the people, time, and resources you need to complete your dissertation.

The best mentor will help you find your way through the dissertation process because he or she is

knowledgeable about the *process* as well as the *product* of doctoral study. He or she knows the requirements for completing a dissertation at your institution, is familiar with the resources available to support your research, and understands the constraints imposed on you by your service obligation. However, the primacy of process does not mean that subject knowledge is irrelevant. A good mentor will also steer you toward the people who possess the subject knowledge that you need to complete your studies. These people may become mentors to you in their own right, usually by becoming members of your dissertation committee.

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The best mentor also is an effective manager of people, time, and resources. Completing a dissertation requires a committee of at least four (five if you count yourself) highly educated and opinionated people to agree on a task, timeline, and criteria for completing and evaluating the project. Therefore, the best mentor will help you identify, recruit, and manage committee members. He or she can help you balance your needs with the interests and priorities of committee members from disparate



LCDR Kenneth Wofford

backgrounds to keep the dissertation process on track. The mentor will also work with you to break down the multiple complex tasks associated with the dissertation process into manageable pieces with realistic timelines. Finally, the mentor will help you locate and secure the financial and material resources you need.

Subject matter expertise alone does not make a great primary mentor. Instead, you should find someone who is interested in your success; will spend the time to help you navigate the process of finishing a dissertation at your institution; and can teach you how to manage people, time, and resources so you can complete your dissertation in a timely fashion. You may have the most innovative research plan in the world, but without help and guidance in executing that plan, you likely will not be successful in bringing it to fruition. ★

COL (ret) Penny Pierce, USAFR, NC

The initial Steering Committee, a combination of active duty and retired military nurse scientists,



Left to right: TSNRP Executive Director CAPT John Maye, Megan Foradori, LTC Ann Nayback-Beebe, Col (ret) Penny Pierce, LTC Felecia Rivers, Col Michaela Shafer, LTC Meryia Throop, and COL (ret) Linda Yoder.

The fruitful exchange between ISR and TSNRP began a collaboration that will yield exciting opportunities for the RIG's members to gain new skills relevant to their specific areas of research.

(2) to establish a mechanism for social exchange among new and experienced scientists; and (3) to advance the repertoire of research skills to meet the challenges of the increasingly complex problems confronting military nurse researchers.

If you are interested in joining the Biobehavioral RIG or would like more information, please contact Megan Foradori, RN, MSN, at megan.foradori@gmail.com. ★

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Please join us in wishing the very best to **CAPT Maggie Richard, NC, USN**, an outstanding military nurse scientist who has joined the ranks of the recently retired!



Greetings from the Military Women's Health Research Interest Group

Our team was part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA's) Center for Women Veterans' fifth National Training Summit on Women Veterans in Washington, D.C., on 15–17 July. The summit featured talks by Irene Trowell-Harris, RN, EdD, director of the Center for Women Veterans, and Patricia Hayes, PhD, chief consultant for the Women Veterans Health Strategic Health Care Group of the Veterans Health Administration. The summit also included a health expo and informative sessions, including talks on benefits, initiatives for returning veterans, caregiver support, patient-centered care, and women veterans' research. We presented the Military Women's Health Research Interest Group's (RIG's) achievements and goals in the Department of Defense

(DoD) panel with three other active duty women's health experts. COL Cathy Nace, MD, presented "Women's Health Issues: Considerations in the Active Duty Soldier"; COL Rebecca Porter, PhD, spoke on behavioral health; and RIG member LTC Michelle Munroe summarized strategies for care. The panel was well received by the audience of more than 700 attendees, primarily VA advocates and case managers, with more than half of those in attendance being veterans themselves. Participants were particularly interested in the work going on inside DoD—the stack of our self-published *Military Women's Health Researcher Guides* flew off the table at the end of the talk.

Many attendees expressed interest in collaborating and exchanging resources. From the group's inception,

our researcher counterparts at the VA, especially Dr. Elizabeth Yano and Dr. Bevanne Bean-Mayberry, both from the VA Greater Los Angeles Health Services & Research Development Service Center of Excellence, have been wonderfully supportive and eager to help the group blossom. We are excited to have many more new contacts and resources thanks to this wonderful opportunity.

Please join us on our growing Facebook page, "Military Women's Health Research Interest Group." If you are interested in an electronic copy of our researcher guide, please e-mail our project consultant at megan.foradori@gmail.com. We welcome the opportunity to be a resource for women's health researchers and clinicians. ★

Dawn Lea Joins TSNRP Staff

Dawn Lea has joined TSNRP as the Resource Center program manager. Since her arrival this spring, she has had the opportunity to oversee a Research Grant Camp session as well as participate in national conferences and the Biobehavioral Research Interest Group's first meeting. *TSNRP News* asked Ms. Lea to share some of her reflections on her professional life and her goals for her future at TSNRP.

What attracted you to this role?

DL: I am passionate about nursing research education, and I was attracted to the mission of the TSNRP Resource Center—that is, to support and strengthen military nurse scientists.

Is there any aspect of your educational or work experience that prepared you for this position?

DL: As a PhD student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, I taught graduate-level nursing courses. Also, early in my career, I developed a research internship program for clinical nurses that gave them the opportunity to experience and participate in the research process—from IRB submission through the clinical research processes to the presentation and publication of findings. As the principal investigator on interdisciplinary, evidence-based practice research projects, I led teams in conducting research on sampling techniques for serial phlebotomies across patient populations, with patient safety as a primary objective. Since then, I have mentored graduate nursing students during their research rotations for many years. Guiding nurses through the nursing research processes remains an activity for

which I am passionate. The diverse experiences during my career, from bench to bedside and beyond, have provided me with the skill sets that prepared me for the role as the manager of the TSNRP Resource Center.

Are there any particular challenges or goals related to this position that you are passionate about?

DL: My long-time professional mantra "research changes practice" was always at the foundation of every professional activity in which I was engaged. Over time, however, this mantra has matured to truly reflect my passion: "research changes and supports practice." To facilitate and participate in research education programs for military nurses is both an honor and a privilege. In addition, it poses challenges not encountered in civilian education programs. ★

Attendees Respond Enthusiastically to 2011 Research Grant Camp

The TSNRP Resource Center sponsored a week-long Research Grant Camp from 11–15 July at the Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, California. This year, Research Grant Camp incorporated some modest revisions from previous years. The most significant revision involved the amount of time—both before and during the camp—that participants were required to prepare and write the actual grant application.

The initial goal of Research Grant Camp remains unchanged from previous years—that is, for each attendee to produce and submit a scientifically sound research grant application in response to a TSNRP Call for Proposals on a topic that aligns with a TSNRP research priority.

The 2011 Research Grant Camp revisions featured:

- A modest amount of didactic content about grantsmanship,
- Substantial time during the course in which attendees applied the didactic content to continue writing their applications on the appropriate grant application forms, and
- Faculty feedback and working one-on-one with attendees throughout the week regarding their grant applications and the submissions process.

Because of the emphasis on grantsmanship, attendees were expected to arrive at Grant Camp with a robust knowledge of:

- Their chosen topic (as evidenced by the draft research proposal submitted as part of their application),
- The research process,
- Research design,



Faculty and participants at the 2011 Research Grant Camp. Front row (left to right): *LTC (ret) Nancy Ryan-Wenger, *Dr. Victoria von Sadvoszky, *COL (ret) Patricia Patrician, *Dr. Kathy McKnight, LCDR Carl Goforth, MAJ Christopher Weidlich, *Dr. Bonnie Jennings, LTC Jennifer Coyner, and *TSNRP Executive Director CAPT John Maye. Back row (left to right): Lt Col Nicole Armitage, *Dr. Rebecca Ryan, LCDR Eric Bopp, Maj Antoinette Shinn, *Dr. Michelle Walsh, LTC Kathleen Malone, CDR Carole Daniel, Lt Col Ed Ronnebaum, and TSNRP staff member Kemia Duncan. (Not shown: CAPT Janet Pierce and Dawn Lea, TSNRP's Resource Center program manager.) *Faculty member.

- Methods,
- Relevant variables,
- Measures, and
- Data analysis.

The application process was highly competitive. All attendees were equally represented by the Army, Navy, and Air Force. The proposed research topics were in alignment with two of the three TSNRP research priorities: Force Health Protection and Nursing Competencies and Practice.

As always, the faculty for Research Grant Camp included seasoned researchers and educators who had prior experience reviewing funded grant applications, teaching at universities, and functioning as team members (i.e., principal investigators, associate investigators, or consultants) on large, substantially funded research teams. Attendees and faculty were paired up based on each attendee's proposed topic of research

and each faculty member's area(s) of expertise. At the conclusion of this year's course, one faculty member stated, "I believe more participants left with at least a solid sense of their aims than ever in the past. That is a major step forward!"

At the program's end, students were asked to reflect and share their experiences over the week. Some of the comments were as follows:

"The combination of didactic, discussion, and feedback from the highly qualified faculty at Research Grant Camp was an invaluable experience that I feel has prepared me well for future grant writing."

—Lt Col Nicole Armitage, USAF, NC

"The TSNRP Grant Camp far exceeded my expectations, and I wholeheartedly consider the opportunity to attend a complete privilege."

—LCDR Eric J. Bopp, NC, USN



“Thank you for the opportunity to interact with and learn from such a phenomenal group of researchers. The varied input, words of wisdom, and one-on-one discussions were invaluable.”

—LTC Jennifer Coyner, AN, USA

“The TSNRP Grant Camp was an amazing experience. I wish every doctoral student had this opportunity. The knowledge and enthusiasm of the faculty were unparalleled. Thanks.”

—CDR Carole Daniel, NC, USN

“The TSNRP Grant Camp was the perfect opportunity to hone my grant into a polished product. The experience was invaluable in terms of meaningful feedback and one-on-one intensive mentoring. Thank you!”

—LCDR Carl Goforth, NC, USN

“The TSNRP Grant Camp held in San Diego was an incredible experience. Many thanks to CDR John Maye, faculty, and staff for making this an outstanding learning opportunity for future military nurse researchers.”

—Lt Col Ed Ronnebaum, USAFR, NC

“Grant camp was a wonderful experience. The sharing of information and experiences from the faculty mentors was priceless.”

—Maj Antoinette Shinn, USAF, NC

“The course was simply phenomenal. The combination of didactic information with one-on-one time with the faculty made this an essential first step in writing my grant.”

—MAJ Christopher Weidlich, AN, USA ★

CAPT John Maye Leads TSNRP as New Executive Director

TSNRP proudly welcomes CAPT John P. Maye as our new Executive Director. He has been at the helm since May 2011, when former Executive Director Col Marla De Jong was selected to take the position of dean at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. CAPT Maye comes to us from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) in Bethesda, Maryland, where he was an associate professor in the Graduate School of Nursing. On his first day in his new role as TSNRP Executive Director, he had the opportunity to oversee a Scientific Merit Review Meeting, and he has not stopped moving since. He was able to take a few minutes, however, to allow *TSNRP News* to interview him for this article.

What attracted you to this position?

JM: The opportunity to be involved with military nurses from the Army, Navy, and Air Force who are attempting to make a difference in the health and well-being of military members

and their beneficiaries is what attracted me to TSNRP.

What unique set of traits, characteristics, or skills do you bring to this role?

JM: One unique aspect that I bring to the role of TSNRP Executive Director is that I have been a practicing certified registered nurse anesthetist for almost 20 years. In addition, I have been an active clinical researcher at various military treatment facilities for over 10 years, and I certainly understand the trials and tribulations experienced by researchers in the field.

Is there any aspect of your educational or work experience that prepared you for this position?

JM: The military provides many opportunities to PhD-prepared nurses. One opportunity that I pursued early in my career was that of an IRB member at the military treatment facilities where I was assigned. Those IRB experiences and knowledge gained regarding the rules and regulations of research, specifically as it relates to the military environment,

have proved to be invaluable. In addition, serving for over 4 years at USU as an associate professor in the Graduate School of Nursing was a tremendous experience. Lecturing and teaching are skills that need to be developed and fine tuned. The years at USU proved to be significant in my development as an educator.

Are there any particular challenges or goals related to this position that you are passionate about?

JM: One specific goal related to serving as Executive Director of TSNRP is related to the Resource Center. Specifically, of significant interest to me during my tenure is in fostering the development of distance learning, webinars, and video teleconference offerings for our various courses.

Is there any message you would like to share with our readers, aspiring and experienced researchers, and others?

JM: TSNRP is here to assist military nurse scientists throughout their entire research careers. I am grateful for the opportunity to support them. ★

TSNRP-Funded Research

Newly Funded Studies

TSNRP recently awarded grants to the military nurse scientists listed below. These grants will enable them to conduct research or evidence-based practice projects on their respective topics. Please join us in congratulating these new TSNRP grant recipients.

U.S. Army

LTC (ret) Janice Agazio, AN, USA,
“Management of Ethical Issues in Military Nursing Practice During Wartime”

LTC Jennifer Coyner, AN, USA,
“Encoding of Fear Memory in High and Low Fear Mice”

LTC Betty Garner, AN, USA,
“Cranial Electrotherapy Stimulation (CES) in Soldiers with Insomnia: A Pilot Study”

MAJ Kyong Hyatt, AN, USA,
“Family Reintegration Experiences of Soldiers with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury”

LTC Michael Loughren, AN, USA,
“The Pharmacokinetics of Intraosseous Epinephrine During Cardiac Arrest in Swine”

LTC Angelo Moore, AN, USA,
“Factors and Behaviors to Consider

when Implementing Patient-Centered Medical Home”

LTC (ret) Nancy Ryan-Wenger, AN, USA,
“Effectiveness and Benefit of Two STI Prevention Delivery Methods for Military Women”

COL (ret) Marietta Stanton, AN, USA,
“Reintegration of Military Nurses”

LTC Nancy Steele, AN, USA,
“A Urinary Diversion Device for Military Women in the Deployed Environment”

LTC Meryia Throop, AN, USA,
“Getting to the Point: Promoting the HPV Vaccine in a Primary Care Clinic”

U.S. Navy

CAPT Angelica Almonte, NC, USN,
“Improving Quality and

Reducing Costs in Highest Health Care Utilizers of PCMHs”

CAPT Janet Pierce, NC, USNR,
“Coenzyme Q10: A New Treatment for Hemorrhagic Shock”

CAPT (ret) Charles Vacchiano, NC, USN,
“Unmasking Cognitive Deficits After Recovery from Mild Traumatic Brain Injury”

LCDR Kenneth Wofford, NC, USN,
“The Influence of Elective Surgery on Functional Health in Veterans with PTSD”

U.S. Air Force

Maj Antoinette Shinn, USAF, NC,
“Pilot Study: PET-CT Animal Model for Surveillance of Embedded Metal Fragments”

Col Karen Weis, USAF, NC,
“Mentors Offering Maternal Support (MOMS): Building Resilient Families”

TSNRP Nurse Scientists Among AAN Inductees

Three TSNRP nurse scientists—**Elizabeth Barker, PhD, CNP, FAANP; Lori Loan, PhD, RNC-NIC; and Robin Newhouse, PhD, RN, NEA-BC**—were among the 142 nurse leaders that the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) selected for induction as Fellows during the Academy’s 38th Annual Meeting and Conference on 13–15 October in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Barker is an associate professor of clinical nursing and director

of the MS program at the Ohio State University College of Nursing in Columbus. She has served in multiple roles at TSNRP since 1996, including as a scientific reviewer for funding applications and, early in the organization’s history, as a member of the Advisory Group. She currently supports TSNRP as a Grant Camp faculty member.

Dr. Loan is the Consultant to the Surgeon General for Nursing Research and the Senior Nurse Scientist at Madigan Healthcare System in Tacoma,

Washington. She currently is TSNRP’s Research Specialty Leader for the Army as well as serves as a mentor to many nurse scientists at several stages of their careers.

Dr. Newhouse is an associate professor and chair of the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health at the University of Maryland School of Nursing in Baltimore. She frequently serves on TSNRP’s Scientific Merit Review Panel. ★

★ Publications and Presentations

Published Articles and Presentations by TSNRP Nurse Scientists

Published Articles

2010

McCabe, J. T., Moratz, C., Liu, Y., Egan, R., Chen, H-Z., Liu, J., **Budinich, C. S.**, Burton, E. E., Danquah, J. K., & Myers, M. R. (2010). Animal models for the study of military-related, blast-induced traumatic brain injury. *Proceedings of the 2010 Biomedical Sciences and Engineering Conference (BSEC)*, 25–26 May, 1–4.

Padden, D. L., Connors, R. A., & **Agazio, J. G.** (2010). Stress, coping, and well-being in military spouses during deployment separation. *West J Nurs Res* 33(2), 247–267.

2011

Mann, E. A. (2011). Burn wound management: Donor site care. In: D. Lynn-McHale Wiegand (Ed.), *AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care* (6th ed., pp. 1091–1096). St. Louis: Saunders.

Padden, D. L., Connors, R. A., & **Agazio, J. G.** (2011). Determinants of health-promoting behaviors in military spouses during deployment separation. *Mil Med* 176(1), 26–34.

Patrician, P. A., **Loan, L.**, **McCarthy, M.**, Fridman, M., **Donaldson, N.**, **Bingham, M.**, & **Brosch, L. R.** (2011). The association of shift-level nurse staffing with adverse patient events. *J Nurs Adm* 41(2), 64–70.

Pierce, J. D., Knight, A. R., Slusser, J. G., Gajewski, Bryon, G., & Clancy, R. L. (2011). Effects of fluid resuscitation and dopamine on diaphragm performance, hydrogen peroxide, and apoptosis following hemorrhagic shock in a rat model. *Mil Med* 176(3), 336–342.

Pierce, P. F., Lewandowski-Romps, L., & Silverschanz, P. (2011). War-related stressors as predictors of post-deployment health of Air Force women. *Women's Health Issues* 21(4), S152–S159.

Siaki, L. A. (2011). Translating questions for use with Samoan adults: Lessons learned. *J Transcult Nurs* 22(2), 122–128.

Siaki, L. A., & Loescher, L. J. (2011). Pacific Islanders' perceived risk of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. *J Transcult Nurs* 22(2), 191–200.

Talbot, L. A., Metter, E. J., Morrell, C. H., Frick, K. D., Weinstein, A. A., & Fleg, J. L. (2011). A pedometer-based intervention to improve physical activity, fitness, and coronary heart disease risk in National Guard personnel. *Mil Med* 176(5), 592–600.

environment: Feasibility and limitations." Second World Congress on Positive Psychology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Nayback-Beebe, A. M. (16–19 February 2011). "Psychometric properties of the interpersonal relationship inventory short form for female veterans" and "Social support, conflict, and stressful life events: Their unique contributions to mental health symptoms." Southern Nursing Research Society, Jacksonville, Florida.

Nayback-Beebe, A. M. (12–15 March 2011). "The influence of social support, conflict, and stressful life events on PTSD, depression, and anxiety symptom severity in U.S. army female veterans." 19th European Congress of Psychiatry, Vienna, Austria.

Siaki, L. (22–26 June 2011). "Evaluating a professional practice model in military ambulatory core clinics." American Academy of Nurse Practitioners National Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Talbot, L. (25 July 2011). "The electromyostimulation and strength walking for knee injuries." Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Presentations

Bridges, E. (30 April–5 May 2011). "Noninvasive hemoglobin monitoring in seriously injured combat casualties." American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, Chicago, Illinois.

Morgan, B. (23–26 June 2011). "A counting blessings intervention in the enlisted military training

Recent Promotions

The following military nurse scientists have been promoted in military rank. Please join us in extending congratulations to these exceptional military nurses!

Jennifer Coyner to LTC (Army)
Johnnie Holmes to CDR (Navy)
John Maye to CAPT (Navy)
Angelo Moore to LTC (Army)
Felecia Rivers to LTC (Army)
Meryia Throop to LTC (Army)

★ ★ ★ Awards and Honors

Col De Jong Inducted into Hall of Fame

Col Marla De Jong, USAF, NC, former Executive Director of TSNRP, was inducted into the University of Kentucky College of Nursing Hall of Fame in May 2011 during a special ceremony and banquet held in conjunction with the college's 50th anniversary celebration. Established in 2006, the College of Nursing Hall of Fame identifies distinguished graduates and their extraordinary contributions to the nursing profession. At the inaugural induction ceremony, Carolyn Williams, PhD, RN, FAAN, immediate past dean of the College, reminded those in attendance, "Our honorees are symbolic of the best of our community of graduates, and by celebrating them, we are celebrating all of our graduates." TSNRP congratulates Col De Jong, a 2005 PhD graduate of the University of Kentucky, for this special recognition of her achievements. ★

TSNRP-Funded Nurse Scientists Receive Flame of Excellence Awards

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) awarded two TSNRP nurse scientists—**Col Elizabeth Bridges, USAF, NC**, and **COL (ret) Mary Jo Grap, AN, USA**—with Flame of Excellence Awards at the 2011 National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition in May 2011 in Chicago, Illinois. Flame of Excellence Awards honor sustained contributions to acute and critical care nursing at a high level with a broad reach.

Col Bridges, who has conducted multiple TSNRP-funded studies, is an instructor and course director with the Defense Institute for Medical Operations and an associate professor at the University of Washington School of Nursing. Her work led to the first comprehensive database of patient characteristics and care requirements for critically ill and injured patients transported by U.S. Air Force Critical Care Air Transport Teams. Editor of the *Battlefield and Disaster Nursing Pocket Guide*, Col Bridges has taught regional disaster response and trauma system management to medical professionals in some of the world's most war-torn regions. She teaches critical care nursing and guest lectures about hospital disaster response and clinical research/evidence-based practice by bedside nurses at the University of Washington, where she helps to design, implement, and analyze nursing research projects and translate existing health care research into clinical practice.

AACN also recognized COL (ret) Grap with its Distinguished Research Lecture Award. She received TSNRP funding for her 2003 study "A Peri-Intubation Intervention to Reduce Oral Flora and Ventilator Associated Pneumonia." Dr. Grap's research, also funded by the National Institutes of Health, the American Nurses Association, and AACN, focuses on optimizing lung function in critically ill adults who undergo mechanical ventilation and includes studies on airway management and sedation evaluation of mechanically ventilated adults. She helped to develop and test the Richmond Agitation Sedation Scale, considered the first of an improved "second-generation" sedation evaluation tool. ★

Ada Sue Hinshaw Receives AACN Award

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) awarded the GE Healthcare-AACN Pioneering Spirit Award to Ada Sue Hinshaw, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean and professor of the Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. This AACN Visionary Leadership Award recognizes significant contributions that influence high acuity and critical care nursing and relates to the association's mission, vision, and values. Dean Hinshaw was the first permanent director of the National Center of Nursing Research and first director of the National Institute of Nursing Research at the National Institutes of Health. In these roles, she led successful efforts to position nursing research within the mainstream of public-funded biomedical and behavioral science in the United States. She led the Institute in its support of disease prevention, health promotion, and environments that enhance nursing patient care outcomes. Dean Hinshaw's research focuses on quality of care, nurses' sensitivity to patient and family needs, patient outcomes, measurement of those outcomes, and building positive work environments for nurses. She discovered predictors of nursing staff turnover and pioneered studying the effect of nursing interventions on staff and patient outcomes. ★



Recent Graduates

TSNRP proudly congratulates the following three military nurse scientists who recently received their doctoral degrees in nursing.

LCDR Darren J. Couture, NC, USN, was recently awarded a PhD from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. His dissertation title was “Current Perception Threshold (CPT) Testing to Measure Sensory Fiber Changes Following Chemotherapy.” The purpose of his research was to determine whether the measurement of CPT could accurately identify the development of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy (CIPN) in patients who receive a taxane or platinum chemotherapy regimen to treat solid tumor malignancy. CIPN remains a significant complication in cancer treatment. The incidence of CIPN is as high as 84% and 100% among patients who receive taxanes or platinum chemotherapy. Because no “gold standard” measure exists to accurately identify CIPN, diagnosis depends upon patients’ self-reporting their own symptoms, and CIPN is often identified only after long-term or permanent neuronal injury has already occurred. Thus, a standard measure is needed that can accurately identify CIPN and, more importantly, predict which patients will develop it.

In May 2011, LCDR Couture and the members of his research team received the Excellence in Innovation through Research Award from the University of Maryland Medical Center for their investigation.

LCDR Couture is now assigned to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) and serves as the clinical research director for

clinical nurse anesthesia training at the Naval Medical Center San Diego.

LCDR Jason McGuire, NC, USN, was recently awarded a PhD in nursing from the University of San Diego Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science. His dissertation was titled “Emergence Delirium in U.S. Military Combat Veterans.” The purpose of his research was to identify the incidence and potential risk factors for emergence delirium (ED) in a U.S. military combat veteran population. ED occurs immediately following emergence from general anesthesia and is characterized by agitation, confusion, and violent behavior. Clinical evidence suggests that ED is occurring with greater frequency among military personnel returning from conflict in the Middle East.

LCDR McGuire has received numerous awards for his research efforts, including first place in the Naval Medical Center San Diego Academic Research Competition, third place in the 2011 Navy-Wide Academic Research Competition, the Mary Hanna Memorial Journalism Award from the *Journal of PeriAnesthesia Nursing*, and the Rear Admiral Mary F. Hall Award from the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps. In December 2010, he published an article called “Risk Factors for Emergence Delirium in U.S. Military Members” in the *Journal of PeriAnesthesia Nursing*.

LCDR McGuire is now assigned to USU as an assistant professor in the nurse anesthesia training program. He also serves as the clinical site director and research director for clinical nurse anesthesia training at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Lt Col Brenda Morgan, USAF, NC, recently earned her PhD in nursing from USU’s Graduate School of Nursing. Her research centered on population health with a specific focus on psychological resilience. Her dissertation title was “Positive Emotion Gratitude: Impact on Perceived Stress and Psychological Resilience.” The purposes of her research were to ascertain the feasibility and limitations of conducting interventional research in the military training environment and to evaluate the effect of a 3-week intervention to increase positive emotion gratitude in a sample of enlisted Air Force students attending the Aerospace Medical Service Apprentice course at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas. The study was funded by a TSNRP grant.

Dissemination of Lt Col Morgan’s research includes a poster (“A counting blessings intervention in the enlisted military training environment: Feasibility and limitations”) at the Second World Congress on Positive Psychology on 22–23 July 2011; an article currently in press (Morgan, S., & Bibb, S. Assessment of military population-based psychological resilience programs. *Mil Med.*); and an abstract in progress (“Impact of Positive Emotion Gratitude on Perceived Stress and Psychological Resilience in a Military Sample,” submitted for the Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session in conjunction with the 117th Annual Meeting of AMSUS).

Lt Col Morgan will next be assigned to a research position at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. ★

Events and Deadlines

Calendar

November 2011

Scientific Merit Review Panel Meeting

14–15 November
Silver Spring, Maryland

December 2011

Advisory Council Meeting

12–13 December
Rockville, Maryland

February 2012

Grant Applications for FY 2012 Funding Cycle B

Due at TSNRP 7 February

Southern Nursing Research Society 26th Annual Conference

22–25 February
New Orleans, Louisiana

March 2012

Eastern Nursing Research Society 24th Annual Scientific Sessions

28–30 March
New Haven, Connecticut

Pacific Institute of Nursing 2012 Conference

28–30 March
Honolulu, Hawaii

Scientific Merit Review Meeting

Date and Time TBD

April 2012

Midwest Nursing Research Society 36th Annual Research Conference

12–15 April
Dearborn, Michigan

Western Institute of Nursing 2012 Conference

18–21 April
Portland, Oregon

17th Biennial Phyllis J. Verhonick Nursing Research Course

29 April–3 May
San Antonio, Texas

May 2012

TSNRP-sponsored Research Strategies for Clinicians

3–4 May
San Antonio, Texas

National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition

19–24 May
Orlando, Florida

Know Your Specialty Leaders

Your specialty leaders are a valuable resource for current research requirements and initiatives throughout the military, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Federal Nursing Services Council.

U.S. Army

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